

Washington, DC -- Congressman Vern Buchanan (FL-13) released the following statement today regarding the government-run health care bill the U.S. Senate is rushing to pass before Christmas.

“We need reform to provide more affordable, accessible, quality health care for all Americans,” said Buchanan. “But much like the bill that passed the House, the Senate bill would create government-run health care, increase the deficit, cut Medicare and increases taxes.

“As House and Senate leaders work with the President to resolve what few differences there are between the two bills, I will continue to work for common sense reforms to reduce costs without jeopardizing care,” added Buchanan. “Furthermore, I urge the President, Speaker Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Read to hold the final negotiations in the open, under the watchful eyes of the American people.”

Buchanan has introduced a bipartisan resolution, with 136 co-sponsors, to end closed-door, secret negotiations on health care reform. The resolution, H. Res. 847, demands that all conference committee meetings be open to the public.